

Remarks


By this Amendment, Applicants' Attorney has cancelled all the pending claims and have added new claims 33-72 to the application to more particularly point out and distinctly claim what Applicants regard as their invention. In particular, new claims 33-72 correspond in large part to now cancelled claims 1-32. Independent claims 33, 48 and 70 include the limitation that the at least one mode shape involves areal, flexural or contour modification of the disk-shaped surface of the resonator at resonance, which limitation is neither taught, disclosed or discussed by any of the references of record taken either alone or in combination with one another. Support of this limitation can be found at the top of page 6 of the specification as well as: page 11, lines 10-11; page 12, lines 20-21 and 24-25; and page 13, lines 14-17.

By contrast, the U.S. Patent to Greywall, 6,369,374 discloses a resonator composed of a silicon nitride membrane disposed above a substrate and spaced apart therefrom by an offset (see column 3, lines 8-17). None of these components has a disk-shaped surface. In contrast, the offset exposes a circular portion of a planar surface of the membrane (see, e.g., Figure 2). The surface of the membrane continues beyond the circular portion, extending over the offset. Therefore, neither the membrane nor any portion thereof forms a disk-shaped surface. Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Greywall fails to disclose a resonator having a disk-shaped surface, as recited in the claims.

Consequently, in view of the above, and in the absence of better art, Applicants' Attorney respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance which allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Clark, et al.

By 

David R. Syrowik

Reg. No. 27,956

Attorney/Agent for Applicants

Date: September 11, 2003

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351